



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF AGAÑA

CHANCERY OFFICE

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Protocol No.: 2017-087

Dear Friends in Christ,

On March 9, 2017, an Archdiocesan Receivership Committee (ARC) assigned to the Cathedral-Basilica was appointed by me, Archbishop of Agana, after the careful review and recommendation of the consultative bodies of the Archdiocese.

The ARC is created as a remedy when an entity within the Archdiocese of Agana whether it is a parish, school or other is deemed to require external intervention for the protection of its ministries, church assets and property under its purview. The ARC is given custodial responsibility for the entity including all assets and funds. This action is a last resort for entities that have failed to comply with the policy and procedures of the Archdiocese, are unable to meet its financial and government compliance obligations, or are unable to maintain active and productive parish or finance councils.

With the cooperation of the pastor or appointed head of the entity, the ARC has the responsibility and power over all financial, administrative and operational governance of the entity, the duration of which is determined by the Archbishop and while considered a temporary assignment may extend until the entity has been stabilized and/or effective leadership is reinstated. The authority of the ARC is extended by a written letter of appointment over the signature of the Archbishop and is only revoked by his hand.

The powers, duties and responsibilities of the ARC include but are exclusive to the following:

- Develop and implement an effective financial recovery plan.
- Restructure and reorganize offices, staff and ministries in concert with the plan.
- Reconstitute or establish parish councils.
- Address unmet liabilities.
- Fulfill government compliance obligations.

- Govern and manage the entity in all financial, administrative and operational aspects, without exception.
- Secure and manage all the assets of the entity.
- Maximize the assets of the entity to increase financial stability.
- Manage the affairs of the entity in order to bring accounts current.
- Adopt and execute any and all other steps and actions necessary to accomplish the preceding.

As a necessary action on my part and to establish a line of accountability for this new ministry, I have also appointed the ARC Chairperson who is tasked with administrative responsibility over all of the clerical, paid and volunteer staff and ministers of an entity, the property of an entity and has unrestricted financial, administrative and operational management powers including bank account signatory, hiring/firing of staff and volunteers, reconstituting or establishing parish finance and pastoral councils.

The names of the ARC are as follows:

ARC Chairperson: Ms. Antoinette D. Sanford Committee

Members: Mr. Ricardo C. Duenas and Mr. Artemio B. Ilagan

Through no fault of your rector, Fr. Paul Gofigan, we have determined the Cathedral-Basilica to be in such a state requiring this urgent action. Our office pledges our continuing support of Fr. Paul and the Cathedral-Basilica. Together, we can right the ship and restore the confidence of the faithful we have promised to serve.

The members of the ARC have my assurance of prayers as they embark on this new ministry. May the Holy Spirit fill us all and guide us forward as we serve the faithful of the Cathedral-Basilica who have placed their trust in us.

Given at the Chancery Office, this 23rd day of March 2017.

Sincerely yours,



+Michael J. Byrnes, D.D.

Coadjutor Archbishop of Agana